

The Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance.

I am 74 years old. I already pay a significant amount of taxes on my home phone. The reason that I carry a cell phone is primarily in the event that I might have a health or other emergency and would need to call 911. Otherwise I might use it 20 to 30 minutes a month if at all. There are many like me and if you continue to increase the price of cell phone service by taxation on cell phone service, you will discourage the use of even limited cell phone service and place more of us at risk.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan.  
Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Jim Simmons  
5034 Corby St  
Omaha, Nebraska 68104-4326

cc:

Senator Chuck Hagel  
Representative Lee Terry  
Senator Ben Nelson